

DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING July 19, 2024

MEETING START 7:00 PM

1. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.
2. 17 present: 11 Zoom, 6 at the Lee Courthouse.

SECRETARY REPORT

3. Gigi L. recapped highlights from the June minutes. Motion to accept minutes for June was made and seconded. Minutes accepted unanimously.

WELCOME

4. Ray M., Area 31 Chair, Dwayne, the Berkshire Intergroup (BIG) Co-chair.

TRADITIONS AND CONCEPTS

5. Spread the word and join us at District 3 Traditions Meeting and Area 31 Concepts Study Meeting. The District Three Traditions meeting is held on the 2nd Sunday of the month @ 7pm. "What a Concept" is held on the 1st Thursday of every month @7:30pm. Links to these meeting can be found at the Area 31 website Calendar (<https://area31aa.org/calendar/>) or the below links:

Traditions Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/events/district-3-virtual-traditions-meeting/>

Concept Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/events/what-a-concept/>

6. Reading of Tradition Seven, short form, by Ray M.:

"Every A. A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. "

Link to illustrated version: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-traditions-illustrated>

7. Reading of Concept Seven by Tom K.:

“The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A. A. purse for final effectiveness. ”

Link to illustrated version: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-concepts-world-service-illustrated>

GROUP REPORTS

8. Berkshire Alphabet Soup: the group which meets at the Front Street Gallery in Housatonic holds its business meeting the last Monday of the month after the regular meeting. There are 5 members and attendance is 6-12 people.
9. Great Barrington Women’s Meeting: The group meets on Thursday nights @ 7pm and has coffee and brownies. There is strong attendance with people coming from as far as Pittsfield. There is rehab participation from CT.
10. Great Barrington Men’s Group: Meeting continues to average 100-125 attendees. The group continues to hold a Sunday Step meeting at 7pm. The group has a new PI (Public Information) representative, is flush with commitments, and will look at the position for Berkshire Intergroup representative next month.
11. I Don’t Have a Clue Group: The business meeting is the last Sunday of the month following regular meeting. The group had a picnic on Sunday, July 20th for group members and invited guests. Rotating service positions continue to be emphasized.
12. Keep It Simple Group: The group meets every day except Sunday, and its business meeting is hybrid. The group made a \$1000.00 donation to the pie chart.
13. Lee Young People's Group: The business meeting is the 3rd Monday of the month. The group has commitments to CSS, the jail, and McGee and lasses around the sign-ups list at every meeting. They have 2 commitments through the Bookie Meeting.
14. Lenox Big Book Group: Attendance is 40-50 people strong with a van coming from Keenan House and lots of young people. The group is donating to the pie chart.
15. Men’s 12th Step Group: The group meets on Tuesdays @ St. Charles Church in Pittsfield from 6:30-8pm. Attendance is 35-40. They have a commitment to CSS and still need an institutions rep and an alt GSR. They give to the pie chart. The group hosts a sponsorship

meeting open to men and women where they read 1/2 of the sponsorship pamphlet during one meeting and discuss and the 2nd half at another meeting and discuss.

16. Monterey 11th Step: The group meets behind the firehouse and will have a picnic on August 18th after the meeting to celebrate its anniversary. The picnic is a potluck and open to all.

17. Northern Berkshire Group: Group has 50-60 fellows on Sunday and half as many on Tuesday night. There is attendance from local recovery houses. It is popular meeting at which to celebrate anniversaries whether a group member or not. Bookie meetings are going well.

18. Stockbridge Tower Group: The business meeting is held the first Tuesday of the month. The group has a prudent reserve and donates to the pie chart. They have a Co-GSR. There are still plans for a gathering, date TBD.

19. Southern Berkshire Group: Business meeting is 2nd Sunday of the month at 7 pm. There are 40-50 attending In-person and 40-50 on Zoom. A group archive is being worked on-DCM to get the group a Group History form to fill out for Area Archives. The group is participating in Bookie Meetings, and Area Committee reps are changing.

20. Virtual Sober at Sunrise: The business meeting is held the last Saturday of the month after the regular meeting. Their picnic will be held on August 3rd and is for group only this year, and looking forward to opening it to the district next year. The group has three new reps: BIG, Institutions, and Business Meeting Chair.

21. Watch Your Step Group: The hybrid business meeting is held the 2nd Sunday of the month. Kathy M., GSR for Virtual Sober at Sunrise, is filling in as GSR for this group until a member fills the space vacated by the former GSR. No new news to report as business meeting is the Sunday follow this month's district meeting.

INVITED COMMITTEES

22. Berkshire Intergroup, Dwayne, Co-. Chair

The business meeting is held the 2nd Monday of the Month @ 7pm on Zoom. Bookie Meeting is a hybrid meeting held at 6pm on the 2nd Monday of the month; 2 exchanges were set up this past month. The BIG sponsored picnic was held on July 13th at the Pittsfield State Forest, and

was a success. The Secretary and Treasurer service positions will continue to rotate simultaneously with both positions coming open in January. BIG office is open 5 days a week 1:30-4pm, please call before visiting as situations (like air-conditioner failure) may cause closure. 100 more WMASS “Where and When” copies are available for pick-up and a donation is suggested. Contributions are up \$260 for the first six months of 2024.

Link to Berkshire Intergroup Website: <https://www.berkshireaaintergroup.org/>

23. Area Chair, Ray M.: Area Chair is available to conduct group inventories, and Area Officers are available to be invited guests at meetings to speak about their experiences with service. District 5 will be putting on the Traditions Play this coming Saturday (July 20) from 10am-1pm at Morning Star Baptist Church in South Hadley, and the event will be hybrid using the new equipment purchased by Area 31 for purposes of hybrid Area events. NERASSA 2025 will be virtual only as it is being sponsored by a virtual district; Concept 8 will be the topic of the monthly Area sponsored Concept meeting on Aug. 1; WMIG will be holding its Picnic on August 18, flier has been posted and is available on the Area 31 Website; District 2 planning a concept workshop for Sept 7th more info to come; The 2025 International Convention to be held July 3-6 will open registration and housing process on Sept. 10; next planning committee meeting for the Mass. State Convention (Nov 8-10) is July 30 @ 7:30, contact Ray for carpooling; Susan B. Secretary for BIG, is the Convention’s Activities Chair and the theme will be A.A. history; to register for the Convention and to make hotel reservations please use the Convention website, aamastateconvention.org.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE DIST. 3 FALL EVENT REPORT

24. Kathy M. reported on the status of the Fall District 3 event:

Committee members: Kathy M., Michael K., and Madison L.

District 3 will hold an 'Emotional Sobriety Workshop' sponsored by District 3 on a Saturday morning in October. The format will be speakers on several bedevilmments. Speakers will be broken up into groups to allow for periodic Q&A and breaks. We will also have an Ask it Basket. Questions for the basket can be submitted in advance or at the event.

Next meeting July 25, 2024 on Zoom.

DCM REPORT

25. Brian W, District 3 DCM

A. Grapevine Committee will be putting on an event in August. The event is Summer Writer's Retreat! Daily Grind at 568 College Hwy, Southwick, MA on Saturday, August 10th from 3-5pm. This will be a hybrid event and that in-person attendees are encouraged to bring their own writing materials (laptop, tablet, pens, pencils, paper, etc.)

B. District 5 will be putting on the Traditions play on Saturday, July 20th from 10am to 1pm. The event will be hybrid and will be held at the Morningstar Baptist Church, 11. North Main Street, South Hadley MA. ZOOM Info is: Meeting ID: 811 6484 1792; Passcode: 554537

C. Fall Assembly will be held on October 19th and 20th, D5 is still finalizing a location, looking towards Chicopee for centralization and looking support for the organizing.

D. WMIG Picnic will be held on August 18th at Moose Lodge, 244 Fuller Road in Chicopee, MA from 1pm to 5pm.

E. Old and New Business:

- Motion to move the Grapevine Committee meeting ahead 15 minutes; motion did not pass.
- Motion to purchase supporting technology for the Area for events and Area Meetings (Owl like device) for approximately \$600. Motion passed.

F. Area laptop was repaired for \$120.

Co-DCM REPORT

26. Currently Co-DCM role is vacant.

OLD BUSINESS

27. Co-DCM Vacancy (11/17/23): Brian W. asked if anyone was willing to stand. No one stood.

2/16/24: DCM requested that GSRs take this to their homegroups to discuss the need for a member of District 3 to step up for the co-DCM role.

NEW BUSINESS

28. No new business
29. Motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
27. The meeting ended with the Responsibility Pledge.

MEETING ENDED at 8:15 p.m.